

# UCAS Student Newsletter 4

## **UCAS Extra: 24 February**

UCAS Extra is available from 24 February 2012, and is for applicants who have used all five choices on their application but are holding no offers – they may have been unsuccessful or they may have declined their offers. Extra gives those applicants the chance to maintain their motivation by adding additional choices, one at a time, before Clearing. Extra is applicant driven and all choices are made through the online Track service. Last year over 9,500 applicants obtained a place in higher education through Extra.

Courses that have places available may be selected from 24 February 2012 in Course Finder (as a search option) or in Course Search (where courses with Extra places available are marked with an 'x'). Not all courses are available in Extra and applicants should research availability not only through the UCAS website but also directly with universities and colleges.

UCAS<sup>tv</sup> can be found on the student page and shows applicants how to use Extra.

## **24 March application deadline**

This is the application deadline for the receipt at UCAS of applications for art and design courses except those listed with a 15 January deadline. Please view the important dates on our website

## **Early start dates**

Please ensure that applicants take care when applying to courses with early start dates. Applicants who receive an offer for a course with an early start date, such as May, will need to ensure that they are replying to those offers as early as possible through Track.

## **Invitation decisions**

Please ensure your students are replying to any invitation decisions shown on Track. This may be a request to attend an interview or audition or provide a piece of work. The invitation details are shown on Track by clicking into the course and applicants must reply with one of the three options: accept, decline or request a new date.

## **Decisions and reply dates**

Many applicants will have received one or more decisions by now but some applicants may be waiting for their first decision from their universities or colleges. In order to advise applicants during this period, please make sure that you and your

colleagues are aware of the timetable for institution decisions and applicant replies at [www.ucas.com/advisers/importantdates](http://www.ucas.com/advisers/importantdates)

### **Student panel poster**

UCAS has recently launched a student panel, where applicants and pre-applicants can provide feedback through surveys and other exercises designed to help improve our products and services. By signing up for the panel, participants can:

win exciting prizes or earn high street vouchers

gain great experience

help to improve UCAS

make themselves heard.

Please hang the poster enclosed in the mailing in a prominent location and encourage your students to sign up.

### **UCAS higher education conventions**

The conventions bring together universities and colleges within the UCAS scheme to inform and guide prospective university and college students. The events play a vital part in helping applicants decide about what and where to study in higher education. For further information about your local convention, please visit [www.ucas.com/conventions](http://www.ucas.com/conventions).

### **UCAS Higher Education Convention Planner**

2012 will see the launch of the Convention Planner. This is designed for your students to prepare for a UCAS convention and give them the information they need as they start their journey into higher education. With case studies, worksheets, FAQs and much more this will be an essential tool to aid their decision making. The UCAS Higher Education Convention Planner, available from early February on the UCAS Events website.

### **Date for your diary - Compose your future**

More information and booking website available from 2 April 2012, midday. If you would like to express an interest in visiting the Compose your future event, please email [events@ucas.ac.uk](mailto:events@ucas.ac.uk).